The Fate of NASTRAN at GSFC

Sandra Irish

Reg Mitchell

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Background Information

- MSC acquired UAI (UAI/NASTRAN) in June 1999
- MSC acquired CSAR (CSA/NASTRAN) in November 1999
- Formed new company called MSC Software (Simulating Reality)
- Current GSFC contract with UAI and CSAR expires May 2000
- MSC Software will no longer provide UAI/NASTRAN or CSA/NASTRAN after GSFC contract expires

Schedule

- December 1999, Reg and Sandra to meet with MSC Software to:
    - Provide a list of NASTRAN technical needs to MSC Software
    - Provide the number of users and licenses required at GSFC
    - MSC Software to provide initial cost estimates for MSC/NASTRAN
    - Discuss with MSC Software implementation differences between UAI/ or CSA/NASTRAN and MSC/NASTRAN

- December 1999, GSFC to begin investigating alternative NASTRAN software options

- January 2000, final release of UAI/NASTRAN (version 20.2) due

- Before May 2000, MSC Software to provide GSFC the date when all essential UAI and CSA capabilities are part of MSC/NASTRAN

- May 10, 2000 to TBD----Transition time from UAI/NASTRAN to MSC/NASTRAN

- June 2000, CSA/NASTRAN no longer available to GSFC users

- **NASTRAN Needs**
  - Ryan sent out a list of the requirements from the previous NASTRAN RFP (http://analyst.gsfc.nasa.gov/nastran.html)
  - Need to consider all DMAPs currently being used
  - Everyone needs to review this list and provide to Reg/Sandra their comments and additions by 12/17/99

- **Number of Users**
  - Simultaneous NASTRAN users?
  - How many PC licenses are needed?

- **Implementation Differences**
  - An analysis need which is available in MSC/NASTRAN but the format is different from UAI or CSA/NASTRAN
  - For example, random vibration (seismic mass?), non-linear, optimization, etc.
  - Ask MSC Software to provide a list of these types of items
  - Maybe need training, "cheat sheets", etc. made by MSC Software

- **Transition Date**
  - MSC Software needs to provide the date when all essential UAI capabilities are included in MSC/NASTRAN
  - This date is when they will want GSFC to use ONLY MSC/NASTRAN

- **Transition Time**
  - Depends on date provided by MSC Software.
  - MSC Software has agreed to offer GSFC UAI/NASTRAN until Dec 31, 2000 (maybe at additional cost)

- **Alternative NASTRAN**
  - Is there a company that provides some form of NASTRAN that we could use for some of our simple problems?
  - A different NASTRAN may be acceptable for PC licenses.
  - Maybe we can develop our own version of NASTRAN for GSFC internal use?
  - Ryan has already started contacting possible companies.